

**Anwar: Bersih 3.0 victims made villains**

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The state-owned media has once again moved to portray peaceful protesters who were victims during Bersih 3.0 as villains, says Opposition Leader Anwar Ibrahim.

This, he said in a statement today, is the typical characteristic of an authoritarian government.

NONE "It is classic statecraft of authoritarian regimes using the state-controlled media to turn the masses who are victims of oppression and brutality into criminals," said Anwar (right).

"I bear witness to the political awakening of the rakyat as I marched with them from Masjid Negara.

"The atmosphere was one of enlightenment, rejuvenation and hope. It was an exemplary conduct of a peaceful assembly; a celebration of freedom and unity in the truest sense."

Describing the government's crackdown on Bersih 3.0 as an "utter disappointment", the de facto Pakatan leader said the rally was to send a message that the political legitimacy of any government in future can only be attained through a genuine democratic process.

"The women, youth and men of all races and ages who came down in full force were encouraged by a sense of justice to demand liberation from usurpers.

"We shall not be intimidated by continuous lies spawned by the state media. We have a much more potent and effective media in our hands as the 300,000 rakyat carry the messages of Bersih 3.0 and liberation to every corner of the nation," he added.

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